HOUSE BILL 680

By Cooper B

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16 and Title 37, relative to videotaping of court proceedings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

16-1-118. In any court of record in this state, the judge shall permit any person to videotape or otherwise record video-graphically any court proceeding that is a public proceeding.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

37-1-183. In any juvenile court in this state, the juvenile court shall record both audio and video of every proceeding. For any public proceeding or with the permission of the court, these recordings shall be made available to the parties to the proceedings before the court. All proceedings shall be recorded in a format that is widely compatible with computer technology.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.